

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00104 110421Z
ACTION EA-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9624
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0104

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: ANNIVERSARY OF CHOU'S DEATH: THE TIEN AN MEN SCENE

REF: PEKING 83

1. NO NEW RWREATHS OR POSTERS WERE IN EVIDENCE ON JANUARY 64, EITHER AT TIEN AN MEN SQUARE OR ALONG CHANG AN STREET NEAR THE INTERSECTION WITH HSI TAN. THE OLD ONES CONTINUED TO ATTRACT SMALL CROWDS, NUMBERING AROUND 50 AT EACH SITE AT 2100 ON JANUARY 10. PRIMARY OBJECTS OF INTEREST WERE STILL THE PEKING #2 LANGUAGE ISTITUTE "PEOPLE'S" PUBLICATION (REFTEL) AND VARIOUS PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT AND THE JANUARY 1977 EVENTS AT TIEN AN MEN SQUARE. USLO HAS SEEN NO POSTER OR EASSY DATED AFTER JANUARY .8.

2. AT THE BASE OF THE EAST SIDE OF THE MARTYR'S MONUMENT A STRONGLY-WORDED ESSAY (PREVIOUSLY MISSED BY USLO) DREW THE MOST CROWD INTEREST AFTER THE PHOTOS. THAT MESSAGE READS:
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"THE FLOWER WREATHS WHICH ARE PILED UP LIKE THE CLOUDS AT THIS CENOTAPH ARE (A MANIFESTATION OF) THE INCOMPARABLY MOVING REMEMBRANCE FOREVER BY MILLIONS OF THE MASSES FOR BELOVED AND RESPECTED PREMIER CHOU. THEY ARE ALSO AN ETERNALPENETRATING NEXPOSURE AND AN ANGRY DEUNNCIATION OF THE GANG OF FOUR AND THOSE POLITICAL BROKERS WHO ARE STILL CONCEALED WHO WILL CONTINUE TO EXIST IN THE FUTURE, WHO ADOPT MANY

GUISES, WHO OPENLY OBEY BUT COVERTLY DISOBEY, AND WHO
STEER A COURSE OF ANTI-MARXISM-LENINISM."

3. USLO HAS SEEN AN EARLIER PRINTED VERSION OF THE PEKING
#2 LANGUAGE INSTITUTE COMPILATION OF "TIEN AN MEN REVOLUTIONARY
POEMS" HAND-COPIED AT TIEN AN MEN SQUARE IN APRIL 1976 AND
JANUARY 1977. THAT EDITION, PREPARED IN FEBRUARY 1977 AND
PRINTED IN-HOUSE AT THE INSTITUTE IN MAY 1977 HAS ONLY
ABOUT 360 PAGES AS COMPARED WITH THE 584 PAGES OF THE
SEPTEMBER 1977 EDITION POSTED ALONG CHANG AN STREET (REFTEL).
MISSING FROM THE EARLIER EDITION ARE THE PHOTOGRAPHS, SOME
WITH PROVOCATIVE CAPTIONS (E.G. "THIS POSTER ATTACKS LIU CHUAN-HSIN,
WHO WAS A DIEHARD FOLLOWER OF THE GANG OF FOUR."), WHICH HAVE
ATTRACTED MOST ATTENTION FROM ONLOOKERS. IF THE PEKING
MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE REFUSED TO APPROVE PUBLICATION,
WE ASSUME THAT THE PRIMARY OBJECTION WAS TO THE PHOTOGRAPHS,
THE PREFACE, AND THE CAPTIONS RATHER THAN TO THE POEMS THEMSELVES.

4. REFTEL ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED THAT THE APPEAL TO THE PEKING
MUNICIPAL REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE TO PERMIT "OPEN"
PUBLICATION OF THE WORK HAD BEEN REMOVED. AT 2100 ON
JANUARY 10 THE THREE-PAGE POSTER, WRITTEN IN A BOLD HAND
AN SIGNED "REVOLUTIONARY MASSES," WAS STILL IN PLACE ALTHOUGH
ATTRACTING NO ATTENTION WHATSOEVER.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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